

Shays-Meehan Campaign Finance Reform Votes on Amendments

Sponsor	Vote	Description
Armey Substitute (#13)	VOTE NO Poison Pill	<p>Because it is a substitute, a vote for the Armey Amendment is a vote to defeat Shays-Meehan. Bans all soft money, even for state party voter registration and GOTV activities. Breaks apart the coalition for reform because it requires corporations and labor unions, including non-profit groups, to use hard money for internal voter registration and GOTV activities.</p> <p>The amendment is a transparently cynical ploy to kill reform and provide cover to Members in doing so. The Shays-Meehan approach is carefully balanced, while the Armey Substitute is designed to send the bill to conference and provoke opposition from a wide range of groups.</p>
Ney Substitute (#14)	VOTE NO Poison Pill	<p>Because it is a substitute, a vote for the Ney Amendment is a vote to defeat Shays-Meehan. Contains the provisions of the Shays-Meehan bill that passed in the 106th Congress. This legislation does not track the Senate-passed bill and does not reflect pre-conferencing agreements between House and Senate reform supporters. It also undermines the ability of Legal Permanent Residents to participate in the political system by prohibiting anyone who is not a U.S. citizen or national from making campaign contributions.</p>
Shays-Meehan Substitute (#9)	YES	<p>Shays-Meehan is the only substitute that represents meaningful reform and that can pass the Senate. Tracks Senate-passed bill and reflects pre-conferencing agreements between House and Senate reform supporters.</p> <p>Bans national parties from raising and spending soft money. Prohibits Federal officeholders and candidates from raising soft money for political parties at Federal, state, and local levels..</p> <p>Requires state and local party committees to spend hard money on activities that influence Federal elections. Allows state and local party committees to spend a mix of soft money (limited to \$10,000 per donor per year) and hard money on non-broadcast voter registration and get-out-the-vote activities that do not mention a Federal candidate. State and local party committees cannot transfer funds for these activities, and Federal officeholders and national parties may not solicit soft money for these activities.</p> <p>Requires sham “issue ads” to be treated as campaign ads. Prohibits the use of corporate and union treasury money for broadcast communications that mention a Federal candidate within 60 days of a general election or 30 days of a primary and are targeted at the candidate’s electorate. (Unions and corporations can finance these ads through their PACs.) Requires individuals and groups of individuals to disclose contributions and expenditures for similar broadcast communications.</p>

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Capito (#10)	Neutral	Allows a candidate running against a wealthy opponent (who spends more than a threshold amount of his or her own money) to raise hard money contributions at triple the usual limit, and to receive additional coordinated party expenditures.
Green (TX) (#11)	NO	Strikes the provision allowing candidates to purchase non-preemptible broadcast ad time at the lowest unit rate. Reverts to current law.
Wamp (#12)	Neutral	Increases limit on individual contributions to House candidates from \$1,000 to \$2,000 per election.
Armey-Ney (#25)	VOTE NO Poison Pill	Breaks apart the bipartisan coalition of support for the Shays-Meehan Substitute. Eliminates the transition rule that would allow leftover soft money to be spent for a building.
Armey-Ney (#26)	VOTE NO Poison Pill	Because this amendment is a substitute, a vote for the Ney amendment is a vote to defeat Shays-Meehan. Contains no federal soft money ban, no state soft money ban, raises hard money limits by enormous amounts, and does nothing meaningful to address campaign ads that masquerade as issue discussion.
Armey (#27)	VOTE NO Poison Pill	This amendment carves out a gaping loophole in the sham “issue ad” provisions in Shays-Meehan. Exempts communication “pertaining to the Second Amendment” from the sham “issue ad” provisions of Shays-Meehan.
Armey (#28)	VOTE NO Poison Pill	This amendment results in repealing the sham “issue ad” provisions in Shays-Meehan. Exempts communication “pertaining to veterans, military personnel or senior citizens, or to their immediate families” from the sham “issue ad” provisions of Shays-Meehan.
Armey (#29)	VOTE NO Poison Pill	This amendment is unworkable and unrealistic. Changes the effective date to tomorrow, February 14, 2002. Requires national party committees to return soft money unspent as of tomorrow to contributors on a pro rata basis.

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Armey (#30)	VOTE NO Poison Pill	This amendment results in repealing the sham “issue ad” provisions in Shays-Meehan. Exempts communication “pertaining to any individual” from the sham “issue ad” provisions of Shays-Meehan.
Armey (#31)	VOTE NO Poison Pill	This amendment carves out a gaping loophole in the sham “issue ad” provisions in Shays-Meehan. Exempts communication “pertaining to civil rights” from the sham “issue ad” provisions of Shays-Meehan.
Armey (#32)	VOTE NO Poison Pill	This amendment falsely implies that the Shays-Meehan Substitute violates the First Amendment. States that nothing in the Shays-Meehan Substitute may be construed to abridge the First Amendment. Contains biased findings and attempts to impose a one-sided interpretation of the First Amendment as a matter of statutory law. This amendment is unnecessary because the Shays-Meehan Substitute was drafted to respect First Amendment principles developed by the Supreme Court in its recent cases, such as <i>Nixon v. Shrink Missouri Government PAC</i> , <i>FEC v. Colorado Republican Party</i> , and the landmark <i>Buckley v. Valeo</i> decision, all of which upheld campaign finance regulations.
Armey (#33)	NO Poison Pill	This amendment would break apart the bipartisan coalition supporting reform and send the Shays-Meehan Substitute to conference. Prohibits state parties and local party committees from spending a mix of soft and hard money on non-broadcast voter registration and get-out-the-vote activities that do not mention a Federal candidate. The Shays-Meehan Substitute already contains numerous restrictions to prevent abuses.

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Armey (#34)	VOTE NO Poison Pill	<p>This amendment undermines the ability of Legal Permanent Residents to participate in the political system and would break apart the bipartisan coalition supporting reform. Legal permanent residents have always been able to make contributions.</p> <p>Legal Permanent Residents -- or “citizens in training” -- pay taxes and have fought bravely to defend our nation.</p>